

**Friis, John**

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**From:** cbrkvch113@aol.com

**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2009 1:11 PM

**To:** Friis, John

**Subject:** Support for HB6666 Section 5 = Support for Part-Time Teachers at ECA

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to strongly advocate for Section 5 of House Bill HB6666, which will allow for adjunct faculty certificates to be issued to the highly-trained professional artists, who serve as ECA's part-time faculty, to continue their 35-year record of preparing Connecticut's high school students for our competitive global economy. If they are required to become certified for 12-hour per week part-time positions, they will not be able to do so and the school will close. This will be a terrible loss to Connecticut's high school students in 19 school districts.

I am currently a second year junior in the theatre department at ECA. I decided to audition here in the middle of my freshman year at Joseph A. Foran High School after being in our production of The Importance of Being Earnest. At the time, three of my fellow castmates were seniors in the theatre department at ECA. Besides the fact that they were (and still are) incredible human beings, they showed an extreme dedication to their art form, and treated every single rehearsal as if it were a performance. They were very confident in themselves as well as their abilities, which was something that I was greatly lacking in. Just from watching them and being around them, I knew that ECA was where I needed to be.

Sophomore year was one of the most difficult years of my life. Besides being class president, an active member of Natural Helpers (a community service organization at my school), and having a steady babysitting job was very difficult for me to balance. However, ECA was a place where I felt comfortable just being myself and exploring the fascinating world of the theatre with kids my own age who shared my passion for it, which is something that I could never have experienced at Foran. Every single person at ECA, students and staff alike, are 110% passionate about what they do. Everyday, I would sit in class at Foran, just waiting for fifth period to be over so I could get on the bus with the 30+ other people from Milford. Each day there was a new experience for me. I actually have grown to dislike Fridays, because that is the only weekday where I do not get to go to ECA. This year, I am the Assistant Director for A Midsummer Night's Dream, which is turning out to be one of the highlights of my whole high school career. I am learning so much about myself and other people. I am learning skills about working with other people that I would never have been able to learn outside of ECA.

Please, do not take ECA away. Words cannot express how much this place means to me and so many other people. I literally cannot imagine my life without ECA. Please make the right choice, and save ECA. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Caroline Berkovich  
ECA, Theatre Department '10

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3/16/2009